

METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 2

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> Steve Kinsey Marin County and Cities

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Jake Mackenzie Sonoma County and Cities

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> James P. Spering Solano County and Cities

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Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director,
Bay Area Toll Authority

Therese W. McMillan
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Legislation Committee April 10, 2009 **Minutes**

Vice Chair Yeager called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Committee members in attendance: Chu, Giacopini, Haggerty, Halsted, Lempert, Mackenzie, Rubin, Spering, Tissier, Worth. Also in attendance: Commissioner Kinsey.

Consent Calendar

The Committee unanimously approved the following items on the Consent Calendar:

- Minutes of the Committee's March 13, 2009 meeting; and
- Term extensions of Advisory Committee members through December 31, 2009 were referred to Commission.

State Legislation

AB 744 (Torrico) – Legislative Principles

Executive Director Steve Heminger presented legislative principles to guide a regional high occupancy toll (HOT) lane network. Mr. Heminger recommended the Committee endorse the principles, which would be the basis for legislative language.

In response to Commissioners' questions, Mr. Heminger noted that once bill language was ready, it would be given to the congestion management agencies (CMAs). He added that the current HOT network map prioritizes where to start. Commissioner Mackenzie noted that there has been little discussion with the Sonoma County Transportation Authority. Commissioner Halsted was concerned that the San Francisco CMA is not part of the network. Mr. Heminger noted that neither is the Napa CMA, but the bill would not prevent their future participation. He stressed that the bill would only authorize a network, not require it.

Andrew Fremier, Deputy Executive Director of BATA, pointed out that all CMAs can participate in the oversight committee and scheduling has been flexible in order to encourage participation. Commissioner Worth asked what the legislative process is for the bill. Rebecca Long of MTC staff said that the bill may be heard before the Assembly Transportation Committee on April 20, but more likely at the April 27 meeting. Commissioner Spering introduced an amendment to give clarification that MTC is seeking a regional network. Commissioner Haggerty moved to approve the principles with the amendment, Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion.

Commissioner Worth noted four issues needed to be affirmed in the bill, including 1) the importance of partnership, 2) net revenues stay within the corridor, 3) investment in the corridor will result in transit investment; and 4) corridors must be thoughtfully prioritized. Commissioner Spering added a fifth: that the network be a true regional system.

Vice Chair Yeager recognized members of the public:

Jim Bourgart of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency strongly supported a regional network, noting that a network is better than a patch work. He said that all relevant state agencies were ready to become actively engaged in order to make the network a reality.

Maria Viramontes of the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee noted there are a number of significant issues that should be addressed prior to adopting a HOT lane network.

George Broder of the Bay Area Council urged the Committee to support the principles.

Carli Paine of TransForm noted that more clarity is necessary as to what constitutes a corridor, and cautioned that the principles shared set out a process about how decisions are going to be made.

Dave Snyder of the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association asked the Committee to support the inclusion of a contra-flow HOT lane on the Bay Bridge as part of the HOT lane network.

Commissioner Lempert noted further information is necessary regarding the financial analysis. Mr. Heminger said a presentation will be prepared for a future committee meeting. Commissioner Kinsey noted there is concern about Marin County being pushed into the network prematurely. Commissioner Worth said that the collaboration process is essential for the network to succeed. The motion was unanimously referred to the Commission without objections.

Proposition 1B Project Delivery

These bills seek to help keep state bond-funded projects on schedule. *AB 672 (Bass)* would provide a local agency that uses its own funds to advance a Proposition 1B project, or a project funded from Proposition 1A, eligibility for repayment at a future date. *AB 1072 (Eng)* makes permanent the years used to determine each transit operator's share of Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement Account (PTMISEA) so that operators can know with certainty how much funding they can expect from this source. Commissioner Worth moved a position of "support" on AB 1072, and to sponsor with a "support" position AB 672, Commissioner Yeager seconded, and the motion to approve the principles as amended was unanimously referred to Commission without objections.

Tom Bulger's Report

The report from MTC's advocate in Washington, D.C. was received by the committee. Randy Rentschler of MTC staff pointed out that Highway Trust Fund solvency was of serious concern.

Other Business/Public Comment/Adjourn

Mr. Rentschler announced that the annual meeting with the state's Bay Area Caucus will take place on April 29 in Sacramento. The next Committee meeting was scheduled for May 8, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.